



CIVIL RIGHTS ON DECK

Volume 6, Issue 6 – June 2011

A monthly publication of the
U.S. Coast Guard
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Civil Rights On Deck Anniversary!



We can hardly believe it either, but it's true! We are now entering our sixth year of publication of 'Civil Rights on Deck,' first published in 2006. What a great celebration! As always, we are very grateful and thankful to you, our contributors and our readers for your input, imagery, and submissions. We could not have done it without you!

CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTORATE

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*CDR Kirby Sniffen, Chief,
Planning and Resource
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*CDR Pedro Jimenez,
Executive Assistant*

Two Within CRD Family Commissioned by the Commander in Chief



Ensign Welicka kissed on the forehead by proud dad, CDR Welicka (Photo from The New London Day by Sean Ellicott).

The sons of two former members of the Civil Rights Directorate (CRD) were commissioned Ensigns by President Barack Obama at the commencement exercises for the United States Coast Guard Academy Class of 2011. Cameron, the son of CDR Valerian "Val" Welicka, Chief, Planning and Resource Division, and Nicholas, the son of Captain (Ret.) Carl J. Uchtyl, former Deputy Director CRD, both were commissioned as Ensigns. The CRD family congratulates both new Ensigns and wishes them success as they serve the nation with the U.S. Coast Guard. Submitted by CDR Pedro Jimenez

Children Around the World Learn About Coast Guard



Children from around the world visited Coast Guard exhibits during the World Children's Festival (WCF), June 17-19, nestled between the Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol, on the National Mall in Washington DC. Young people learned about boating safety, fitness, Coast Guard's Partnership in Education PIE program, and more. As above, students, their parents and teachers, from the nearly 100 participating countries, viewed winners of the Coast Guard Art Contest, selected from more than 300 submissions by students, grades K through 12 who are active in Coast Guard PIE programs. The WCF brought together diverse communities around a shared concern for the future of children, their health and education, and was the second in a series of stops where the winning Coast Guard artwork will be on display, as part of the PIE program's 20-year anniversary. Look for more on 20th Anniversary PIE activities in the next issue of Civil Rights On Deck. Submitted by Ms. Deborah Gant

New Shipmate Aboard: Reporting for duty, Ms. Aurelia Akpan, an intern with the Civil Rights Directorate, Region 1. Ms. Akpan is currently enrolled at Saint John's University, Queens, N.Y. where she is majoring in English with plans for law school. She enjoys theater, friends, family and music. Ms. Akpan is ecstatic to intern with CG and looks forward to developing long-lasting relationships with CG shipmates. Submitted by Ms. Marisa Marinos



Awards & Recognitions

Congratulations to CG's 2011 National Image Inc, Meritorious Service Award winners, LT Yamaris Barril of Sector Cleveland & Mr. Jose Velazquez of Personnel Service Center. Attending the awards ceremony in support of our distinguished shipmates held in Orlando, FL, were RDML Vincent Atkins and CAPT Brendan Frost.



The Civil Rights Directorate (CRD) salutes CG's winners of the 2011 Federal Asian Pacific American Council Meritorious



Service Awards, LT Andrew Taylor of the 17th District (left) & LT Charlene Forgue of the USCGA (right). They were honored at an awards ceremony attended by CAPT Jason Lyuke (center) in Seattle, WA.

Submissions by Ms. Nichole Milline

CRD Prepares to Perform Counseling, Mediation Role After Don't Ask Don't Tell Repeal

Background: Under USC §654, commonly known as Don't Ask Don't Tell, military members were not permitted to seek redress for complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation. Effective with repeal and implementation, military members will be allowed to access the pre-complaint process for such claims within all military services. Specific to Coast Guard, military members will be allowed to contact civil rights service providers (CRSPs), who, consistent with other prevailing non-discrimination policy, will offer counseling and attempt to resolve such complaints.

As implementation nears, CRD will offer information on the process for raising sexual orientation complaints, and changes to the Civil Rights Manual through this newsletter, and ALCOASTS. The workforce may direct questions to Ms. Barbara Stewart, Solutions and Complaints Division, (202) 372-4520. Submitted by CDR Pedro Jimenez

The 8th District Hosts A Gala Affair



The Eighth Coast Guard District hosted its 1st Annual Multi-Cultural Heritage Festival. Traditionally, cultural observances are held individually for respective national heritage observances. This year, a committee comprised of Human Relations Council (HRC) members and volunteers from units located within the Greater New Orleans, LA area embarked on a ground-breaking, and possibly trend setting, endeavor that celebrated and recognized a multiple of national heritage observances during a single gala event. The festival featured cultural informational booths, artistic dance groups, riveting and dramatic skits, demonstrations of Native American basket weaving and arts and crafts, live entertainment and a 24' long buffet offering cultural food samplings from around the world. The room where the gala was held was adorned with banners representing a diversity of national heritage groups, displays of cultural figurines and an array of red, white and blue balloon bouquets. Submitted by Mr. Vesone X. Dean

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